

Judith Shock
6018 Ridge View Dr
Alexandria, VA 22310

Virginia Air Board
c/o Terry Darton
Air Permit Manager
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Dear Air Board-

Having grown up in the Alexandria area, I am concerned about the future of Fairfax County. I moved around quite a bit after I married, as my husband was in the navy. Thirty five years ago we moved back and permanently settled in the southern edge of Fairfax. I believe citizens' voices need to be heard, and one must do their best to keep their community prosperous. I contribute to my community by volunteering at the library.

This is a wonderful place to live, and more people are realizing that and relocating to the area. As more people move in, the need for energy increases. The Potomac River Generating Station contributes a vast amount of electrical energy to a power grid that supplies much of the Atlantic coast with electricity. The Air Board's suggestion of decreasing the amount of power contributed has no merit. This will not reduce pollution; it will just reduce the amount of available power.

The West Coast of our country is already experiencing problems due to lack of electrical energy in the grids that supply them. Sporadic blackouts occur due to lack of power going into their grid. This problem could become common place here in the Alexandria area should the power production be reduced. Aside from being inconvenient, rolling blackouts cost people and businesses money. Imagine losing your air conditioning for several hours on a 90 degree day.

With the stack merge proposed by Mirant, the production of electricity will stay the same and the air quality will be even better than it is now. We will continue to contribute sufficient energy to a large grid that supplies many people. The US Department of Energy has already ordered the facility to continue at full swing operating regardless of air quality implications. The stack merge will improve air quality and allow the facility to continue operating safely.

Sincerely,

Judith Shock

